REMARKS

Reconsideration of this Application is respectfully requested. Applicants have herein amended independent Claim 4 to more clearly point out aspects of the present invention. Applicants assert that Claims 1-15 are patentable over the cited art of record.

35 U.S.C. Section 112 Rejection

Paragraph 1 of the above referenced Office Action rejects Claim 4 for including an indefinite limitation. Claim 4 has been amended to more clearly point out aspects of the present invention.

35 U.S.C. Section 102 Rejections

Paragraph 2 of the above referenced Office Action rejects Claims 1-15 as anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 6,636,467 (hereafter Taussig). Applicants respectfully traverse.

The independent Claims 1, 6, and 11 recite limitations of embodiments that describe synchronizing newly recorded data with previously recorded data within a disk-based data storage system. As recited in Claims 1, 6, and 11, a first difference between a wobble reference signal and previously recorded data is measured. Test data is written on a test track to measure a second difference between the wobble reference signal and the test data. The test data is written synchronously with a write clock. An offset value is determined by comparing the first difference and the second difference. New data is then written using the

write clock and the offset value such that the new data is synchronized with the previously recorded data.

In contrast, the Taussig reference appears to use a "calibration data sequence" to adjust the phase of the write clock for the new data (e.g., Taussig col. 5, lines 35-40). Taussig specifically refers to this calibration data being written in a "specific zone" of the disc (e.g., Taussig col. 5, lines 40-41). Additionally, the use of this calibration data sequence is in addition to the writing of "test data" and specifies the writing of such test data "in a zone near the calibration data sequence" (e.g., Taussig col. 5, lines 56-61).

The embodiments of the present invention as recited in Claims 1, 6, and 11 do not require any "calibration data sequence" to exist on the disk. The claimed invention does not write any calibration data sequence that is separate or distinct from test data. Furthermore, the claimed invention does not use a calibration data sequence in conjunction with a writing of test data. The "first difference" and the "second difference" of the claimed embodiments thus appear to be different from the calibration data sequence disclosed by Taussig.

Therefore, Applicants respectfully assert that the "first difference" and the "second difference" used to determine a delay offset are different from the method of Taussig. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully submit that the present invention as recited in Claims 1-15 is not anticipated by the Taussig reference within the meaning of 35 U.S.C. Section 102.

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CONCLUSION

All Claims (1-15) of the present application are now in condition for allowance. The Examiner is urged to contact Applicants' undersigned representative if the Examiner believes such action would expedite resolution of the present Application. Please charge any additional fees or apply any credits to our PTO deposit account number: 23-0085.

Dated: 3 5 __, 2004

Respectfully submitted, WAGNER, MURABITO & HAO

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